



## Firearm Safety

### DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR GUN IS?

Many choices we make in life come with added responsibility. Gun ownership is one of them. According to recent federal surveys, guns are in nearly half of all U.S. households. The Constitution of the United States ensures your right to own a firearm, but are you aware of the responsibility that is attached to that ownership?

Many citizens own firearms for collecting, sport or self-defense. Whatever the reason, it is the responsibility of the owner to be aware of the whereabouts of their firearms at all times, and to be able to identify it by make, model and serial number.

**Teach your children!**  
**If a child comes across a gun, they should follow four steps:**  
**Stop.**  
**Don't Touch.**  
**Leave the Area.**  
**Tell and adult.**

Even if you do not have a firearm in your home, chances are someone you know does. Children could come in contact with a gun at a neighbor's house, when playing with friends, or under other circumstances outside of your control. We encourage you as a responsible parent and citizen to...

Make sure firearms cannot be reached by anyone who should not have access to them without your consent.

Keep ammunition securely stored where a child or any other unauthorized person cannot reach it.

Talk to your child about guns, and gun safety. By removing the mystery surrounding guns, children will be far less curious about guns, and more likely to follow safety rules.

Make sure your child understands the difference between a toy gun and a real gun, and the difference between "pretend" and real life.

In a home where guns are kept, the degree of safety a child has rests squarely on the parents and gun owner. Parents who accept the responsibility to learn, practice and teach gun safety rules will ensure their child's safety to a much greater extent than those who do not. Parental responsibility does not end, however, when the child leaves the home. That is why it is critical for your child to know what to do if he or she encounters a firearm.